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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

72-HOUR REPORT**29 JANUARY 2018**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Oakland – Laser-Pointing Suspect Arrested after Oakland Sideshow**

(U) Officers arrested Ponciano Bojorquez, 24, of Pittsburg, on suspicion of several charges related to a laser-pointing incident involving a California Highway Patrol (CHP) helicopter monitoring a sideshow on 28 January. A helicopter carrying CHP Golden Gate Division Air Operations officers responded to help Oakland police in assessing multiple sideshows. The helicopter discovered a sideshow involving about 200 vehicles, with fireworks set off into the air below the helicopter, as well as reports of gunfire inside the crowd of onlookers. While monitoring this sideshow, helicopter crew members saw a green laser-pointer beam shining up at them from the ground. Quickly locating the person, the crew watched him until he got into a white sedan and drove away, then directed officers with the CHP's Oakland bureau to stop the vehicle and arrest Bojorquez.

SOURCE: 29 January 2018, [Mercury News](#)

(U) San Francisco – White Nationalists Hang Banner Opposing Sanctuary City on Bay Bridge Tunnel

(U) A sign mocking San Francisco's sanctuary city policy was hung yesterday over the Yerba Buena Tunnel in San Francisco by a white nationalist organization. The sign read "Danger" in red letters and "Sanctuary City Ahead" with a skull and crossbones on both sides of the poster. It was visible to Bay Bridge motorists driving west on Interstate 80 but was quickly removed. Identity Evropa claimed responsibility for the sign on Twitter.

SOURCE: 28 January 2018, [SF Gate](#)

(U) Santa Ana – Suspect Accused of Killing Former Classmate Trained with Neo-Nazi Group

(U) The 20-year-old Newport Beach man accused of killing a former high school classmate is an avowed Neo-Nazi and trained with a notorious extremist group committed to violent overthrow of the US government, according to a newly published report. Samuel Woodward is charged with murder in the killing 19-year-old Blaze Bernstein, a University of Pennsylvania student who went missing this month while visiting his family in Orange County. Prosecutors say Woodward stabbed Bernstein 20 times and then buried his body in a Lake Forest park, where it was found days later. Bernstein was Jewish and gay, and police are investigating his killing as a possible hate crime. Woodward is scheduled to be arraigned in Orange County Superior Court on Friday.

SOURCE: 28 January 2018, [The Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) NATIONAL**(U) District of Columbia – CDC Reports Flu Still Widespread in US, Worst Season since 2014-2015**

(U) Washington – Flu continues to be widespread across the United States and the season is on track to be one of the most severe since 2014/2015, when 34 million people were sickened by the virus and 710,000 were hospitalized, US health officials said on Friday. The director of the influenza division at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported influenza activity had begun to taper off in some parts of the United States, particularly in California and other states on the West Coast, but the season was far from over. The number of Californians younger than 65 who have died from the flu during this

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flu season jumped again in the latest reporting period and now totals 97, according to figures released Friday by state public health officials.

SOURCE: 26 January 2018, [Mercury News](#), [Reuters](#)

(U) Florida – Auburndale Resident Accused of Igniting Flares at Mall

(U) Lake Wales – An Auburndale man is facing an attempted arson charge for allegedly igniting two marine flares at the Eagle Ridge Mall last weekend, Lake Wales police said. Patrick Collins, 31, was arrested around on 26 January after a lab test showed his DNA matched DNA found on the flares and a pair of gloves left at the mall. Firefighters initially said that an improvised explosive device had been detonated in a corridor next to the store entrance. The FBI later determined that there was no explosion and no bombs were discovered. It also said that the incident doesn't appear to be terrorism-related. The mall was evacuated. No one was injured, but a ceiling and a wall were damaged by the flares.

SOURCE: 27 January 2018, [WFTV](#)

(U) Pennsylvania – Five Shot Dead, One Wounded at Car Wash

(U) Melcroft – Five people were killed and one was wounded after a gunman opened fire at a western Pennsylvania car wash early yesterday morning, state police said. The attacker was believed to be among the dead. The shooting at the coin-operated facility was still under investigation, and the motive was unknown, police said. Pittsburgh television station WPXI reported the dead as three men and two women, but state police declined to confirm that information.

SOURCE: 28 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) Afghanistan – ISIS Claims Attack on Military Post**

(U) Kabul – Militants this morning raided a military academy in Kabul, the Afghan capital, killing 11 soldiers, the fourth major attack in a spate of violence over the past nine days. Five gunmen attacked an army outpost near one of Afghanistan's main military academies and 11 soldiers were killed and 15 wounded before the attackers were subdued, the defense ministry said. ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack near the Marshal Fahim military academy on the city's western outskirts, in which four of the gunmen were killed and one captured.

SOURCE: 29 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Afghanistan – Ambulance Bombing Kills 103, Wounds 235

(U) Kabul – Afghanistan's interior minister says at least 103 people were killed in a suicide bombing carried out by the Taliban in Kabul on 27 January. Wais Ahmad Barmak reported that another 235 people were wounded in the attack. Barmak said police were among those killed and wounded. The attacker drove an ambulance filled with explosives and was able to race through a security checkpoint by saying he was transferring a patient to a hospital. The explosion damaged and destroyed dozens of shops and vehicles. The attack in one of the most heavily protected parts of the city, close to foreign embassies and government buildings, was the worst seen in the Afghan capital since a truck bomb near the German embassy killed 150 people in May.

SOURCE: 28 January 2018, [Independent](#), [Reuters](#)

(U) Colombia – Two Overnight Bombings Target Police Stations

(U) Barranquilla – Two overnight bombings that targeted police stations in Colombia's Caribbean region killed two officers and wounded seven other people, authorities said yesterday, a day after a similar attack killed five officers and wounded 40. One of the new attacks killed two officers and wounded a third just before midnight in rural Bolivar province, while the other occurred in Soledad about four hours

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later. Six people were wounded by the explosion there, five of them police officers. Authorities have arrested one person in connection to Saturday morning's bombing in the port city of Barranquilla, which officials said could have been retaliation for police raids targeting criminal gangs.

SOURCE: 28 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Iran – Revolutionary Guards, ISIS Fighters Clash in West Iran

(U) Tehran – Three members of the Revolutionary Guards and three ISIS militants were killed in clashes in the west of Iran on 27 January. A team of 21 ISIS fighters were tracked after they crossed Iran's western border before being attacked by the Guards, the most powerful military force in the Islamic Republic. General Mohammad Pakpour, head of the Guards' ground forces, said 16 militants were arrested and two fled but were now surrounded.

SOURCE: 27 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) Mexico – Mexico to Send Troops to Stem Violence after Record 25,000 Murders

(U) Mexico City – Mexican officials said yesterday the government was set to unleash a new wave of troops to crack down on criminal groups in regions where a surge in violence led to more than 25,000 murders last year. National Security Commissioner Renato Sales said federal police troops will work with local officials to round up known major criminals and bolster investigations. More than 25,000 murders were recorded last year as rival drug gangs increasingly splintered into smaller, more blood-thirsty groups after more than a decade of a military-led campaign to battle the cartels.

SOURCE: 28 January 2018, [Reuters](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) Mexico – Police Find 100 Pounds of Fentanyl in Multi-Drug Stash**

(U) Ensenada – Mexican police found a multi-drug shipment that included 100 pounds of the synthetic opioid fentanyl in a vehicle near the city of Ensenada in Baja California. Fentanyl can be fatal in doses of just a few milligrams. To put the size of the haul in perspective, a seizure last year of 4.5 pounds of fentanyl in Columbus, Ohio, was said by prosecutors to be enough to potentially kill the entire population of the city of 860,000 people. Police in Mexico said the drug shipment seized near Ensenada also included 914 pounds of crystal meth, 88 pounds of cocaine and 18.5 pounds of heroin. Police arrested a man who was driving an SUV stuffed with the drugs near Ensenada. The drugs were so bulky they were stuffed into a pile of sacks that filled the rear of the vehicle.

SOURCE: 25 January 2018, [KRON](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**(U) FOR QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS, PLEASE EMAIL STAC@CALOES.CA.GOV, OR CALL 916-636-2900.**

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